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FLOOR DEBATE

March 27, 2002      LB 1100, 1309

propose opportunities for us to change that. The Revenue Committee's proposal is still about \$14 million off. This proposal, if I could have got it drafted correctly, would have given us about \$21 million. Now it would have made some cuts in a number of different areas, but we couldn't get it done in time because of the differences between LB 1100, the differences between LB 1309 as in the green copy, and the Appropriations Committee's amendment. So this was my attempt because of time constraints, but from that standpoint, we have some opportunities. I've appreciated the opportunity to speak on the issue before us in the budget, but I still do have frustrations about some of the directions that we're heading and some of the places that we have selected to choose or not choose for our decisions. So with that, Madam President, I would respectfully withdraw AM3369.

SENATOR SCHIMEK: It is withdrawn. Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: Madam President, Senator Erdman would offer AM3372 (Legislative Journal page 1200.)

SENATOR SCHIMEK: Senator Erdman, to open on AM3372.

SENATOR ERDMAN: Thank you, Mr. President, members. This amendment, as opposed to the other one, will not be withdrawn. I would like to take this to a vote. The proposal before you in AM3372 has been discussed over the number of years. There's been a number of states do this. And Senator Bourne has offered an interim study to accomplish a similar approach, and here's what it is. It says: Beginning with the budget forms to be filed pursuant to our statutes in 81-132 on or before September 15, 2002, and for each biennium thereafter, the budget forms provided by the budget division pursuant to the section to all departments, offices and institutions of state government requesting appropriations shall reflect a zero-based budgeting. For purposes of this section, zero-based budgeting is defined as well as renumbering the situation. And here's why I bring this. We have a continual discussion about what we do this year, and Senator Wehrbein has eloquently pointed out what's going to happen in the future. And if we're going to sit down a path of trying to solve the problems of the state with an honest common